

Course name	GEOS 120: Weather
Semester	Spring, 2016
Instructor	Dr. Shane D. Mayor
Lectures	Mon., Weds., and Fri. 12:00–12:50 PM in Physical Science Building (PHSC) 130
Office hours	MW 3:00-4:00 PM (Please e-mail first. If not in office, look in PHSC 128.)
Office	PHSC 126
Mailbox	Department of Geological and Environmental Sciences office (PHSC 217)
Phone	530–898–6337
E-mail	sdmayor@csuchico.edu
Class webpage	http://phys.csuchico.edu/sdmayor/GEOS120_f15/index.html
Required Book	<i>Meteorology Today</i> , 11th Edition (©2015, Brooks/Cole, Cengage Learning) by C. Donald Ahrens and Robert Henson.
Optional Book	<i>Workbook and Study Guide for Meteorology Today</i> , 10th Edition
Course Format	This is a fast-paced lecture-based course without labs. It is important that you procure and read the required book and come to class. It is highly advisable to take notes in class. Please inform the instructor by e-mail in advance if you cannot come to a class due to illness or for other reasons.
Course Overview	This course provides an introduction to weather and climate.
Learning Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To provide a college-level, foundational understanding of the physical basis for weather and climate. 2. To be able to explain the causes of some common weather phenomena that you can observe. 3. To be able to describe the basic composition and structure of the atmosphere. 4. To be able to distinguish a variety of weather systems on multiple scales and what causes them. 5. To be able to describe how human activity is changing the earth's atmosphere.
Course Grade	Your course grade will be based upon a set of exams, homeworks, and quizzes. The instructor reserves the right to adjust grades according to other factors such as attendance and discussion. An approximate breakdown for the course grade: Exam 1, 15%; Exam 2, 15%; Exam 3, 15%; Final Exam, 25%; Quizzes, 15%; and Homeworks, 15%.
Dropping & Adding	You may drop (or add) without obtaining permission until Friday, February 5. From February 6 to February 19, you must obtain permission from the instructor to drop. After Friday, February 19, you will need a serious and compelling reason to drop and your request must be approved by the Department Chair and the College Dean.
Classroom etiquette	<p>Please do not eat in lecture. The noises and smells may be a distraction for your peers. Plan your day so that you have adequate nourishment before class.</p> <p>Please come to class on time. Walking in several minutes late is a distraction for everyone. We understand if it happens once or twice a semester, but chronic lateness projects lack of maturity and respect and will be taken into account for your course grade.</p> <p>Instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus at any time.</p>

Meeting dates and significant events.

Mon.	25	Jan.	
Weds.	27	Jan.	
Fri.	29	Jan.	
Mon.	1	Feb.	
Weds.	3	Feb.	
Fri.	5	Feb.	Last day to add or drop without permission from the instructor.
Mon.	8	Feb.	
Weds.	10	Feb.	
Fri.	12	Feb.	
Mon.	15	Feb.	
Weds.	17	Feb.	
Fri.	19	Feb.	No adding or dropping after this date without Chair's and Dean's approval.
Mon.	22	Feb.	
Weds.	24	Feb.	
Fri.	26	Feb.	
Mon.	29	Feb.	
Weds.	2	Mar.	
Fri.	4	Mar.	
Mon.	7	Mar.	
Weds.	9	Mar.	
Fri.	11	Mar.	
Mon.	14	Mar.	Spring break. No classes.
Weds.	16	Mar.	Spring break. No classes.
Fri.	18	Mar.	Spring break. No classes.
Mon.	21	Mar.	
Weds.	23	Mar.	
Fri.	25	Mar.	
Mon.	28	Mar.	
Weds.	30	Mar.	
Fri.	1	Apr.	
Mon.	4	Apr.	
Weds.	6	Apr.	
Fri.	8	Apr.	
Mon.	11	Apr.	
Weds.	13	Apr.	
Fri.	15	Apr.	
Mon.	18	Apr.	
Weds.	20	Apr.	
Fri.	22	Apr.	
Mon.	25	Apr.	
Weds.	27	Apr.	
Fri.	29	Apr.	
Mon.	2	May	
Weds.	4	May	
Fri.	6	May	
Mon.	9	May	
Weds.	11	May	
Fri.	13	May	
Mon.-Fri.	16 - 20	May	Final Exam week